



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q93489

Mie KAMIYAMA, et al.

Group Art Unit: NOT YET ASSIGNED Appln. No.: 10/569,965

Examiner: NOT YET ASSIGNED Confirmation No.: 3351

Filed: February 28, 2006

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after U.S. Appln. No.: 10/569,965

filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant on February 24, 2004, submitted a copy of a the International Search Report from the Japanese Patent Office issued in counterpart Application No. PCT/JP2004/012585 citing such document and indicating the degree of relevance found by the Japanese Patent Office.

In further compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

1. The submission of an English language abstract of WO 1998/046815 also constitute a concise statement of relevance of WO 1998/046815, and furthermore, U.S. Patent No. 6,430,348 and EP 0 921 217 correspond to WO 1998/046815.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/569,965

Attorney Docket No.: Q93489

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

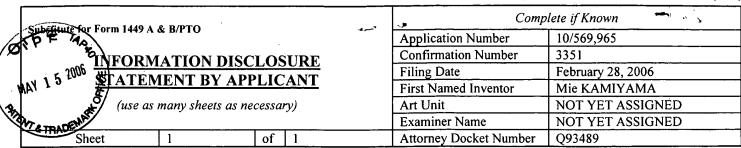
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Date: May 15, 2006



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number		Dublication Date		
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	
		US 6,430,348	B1	08-06-2002	Asano et al.	
		US				
		US				
		US				
		US				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document					
		Countr y Code ³	Number⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		wo	1998/046815	A1	10-22-1998	TEIJIN LTD (JP); NISSAN MOTOR (JP); TANAKA PRECIOUS METAL IND (JP); ASANO MAKOTO (JP); KURODA TOSHIMASA (JP); OWAKI SHINJI (JP); KUMZAZWA KINYA (JP); TABATA HIROSHI (JP); SHIMIZU SUSUMU (JP); SAKIHARA AKIO (JP)	Abstract and corresponding documents USP '348 and EP 0 921 217
		EP	0 921 217	Al	06-09-1999	TEIJIN LIMITED; NISSAN MOTOR COMPANY, LIMITED, TANAKA KIKINZOKU KOGYO K.K.	
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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered		
	 		

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or follow the hyperlink from the title of the document to the intranet. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.